

ABOUT US

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is the state agency with regulatory authority over railroads in Illinois. The ICC employs rail safety engineers and federally certified railroad inspectors.

The ICC's rail safety staff responds to inquiries and complaints and conducts specialized inspections of railroad tracks, rail operations, hazardous transportation and grade crossing signal systems. The ICC also monitors railroad rights-of-way and grade crossing surface conditions, as well as visibility obstructions at rail crossings.



TRANSPORTATION BUREAU
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

OUR MISSION

The Commission's Rail Safety program oversees the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities, and equipment in the state through Education & Outreach, Inspection, Railroad Worker Safety and Crossing Safety Improvement Programs.

CONTACT US



For Rail Safety Concerns or to Request an OL
Presentation: ICC.RailSafety@illinois.gov

ILLINOIS RAILROAD FACTS

- Second Largest Rail System of Any State in U.S
- Approximately 7,400 miles of Railroad Tracks & 14,553 rail crossings and bridges statewide
- The network is operated by 91 railroads or industries providing rail service to ports and industrial facilities
- In 2019, Illinois was second in the nation generating 125.9 million tons of freight.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
RAILROAD SAFETY



OUR SERVICES

EDUCATION

OPERATION LIFESAVER (OL)

- Public education program

CROSSING DATABASE ACCIDENT STATISTICS

ENFORCEMENT & INVESTIGATION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

- Investigation of public highway rail crossings

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

- Investigate citizen, highway agency & public official complaints on rail safety concerns

INSPECTIONS

- Track, Signal, HazMat, Operating Practices, Public Highway Railway Crossings

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING OVERSIGHT

- Oversight of all improvements and modifications to the State's Public Highway Rail Crossings.

GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)**

- Project selection & management of GCPF highway -rail safety projects. Funds appropriated by General Assembly

SAFETY IS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

ICC's Rail Safety Program has become one of Illinois' most effective public safety programs, based on the reduction of train-vehicle collisions. Since 1990, motor vehicle -train crashes at grade crossings in Illinois declined by 52% and the number of fatalities dropped by 59%.



The information on the "ENS" sign enables the public to reach the railroad responsible for the crossing and to identify the specific crossing in the event of an emergency.

This sign gives the public critical emergency contact information at every highway-rail grade crossing.

ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS FOR GCPF ASSISTANCE

- Highway Approaches
- Voluntary Crossing Closures
- Installation of New Crossing Warning Devices
- Upgrade of Existing System Control Circuitry
- Construction of Connecting Roads to Facilitate Crossing Consolidations
- Construction or Reconstruction of Grade Separation Structures
- Traffic Signal-Railroad Warning Device Interconnect Improvements
- Pedestrian Grade Separation Structures
- Trespass Mitigation

** Application for the Grade Crossing Protection Fund, and info on Commission's Crossing Safety Improvement Program available on our website